GUJARAT

Administration: The State Archives was set up on 1st December, 1971. The staff strength during the period under report was - 1 Director, 1 Superintendent, 1 Head Clerk, 1 Research Assistant, 3 Senior Clerks, 1 Librarian, 2 Junior Clerks, 1 Steno-typist, 1 Clerk-cum-typist, 1 Binder, 1 Naftarband, 2 Peons and 1 Chowkidar.

Budget: During 1973-74, a sum of Rs.68,996 was spent out of a budget provision of Rs. 1,00,000 on the plan side. For 1974-75, a sum of Rs. 1,65,000 has been made in the budget on the non-plan side and Rs.50,000 on the plan side.

Building: The Archives Department of the Government of Gujarat is at present housed in a rented building. The Government has decided to construct a new building for the Archives at Gandhinagar and the preparation of a design for the proposed archives building is under way.

Record Management: During the year the office scrutinised the old records ripe for destruction in the Bhavnagar District Record Office and Palitana Record Office. During scrutiny, Parwanas relating to the 18th and 19th centuries have been located. Work on retention schedule, research and reference, reference media, publication programme and preservation of records will be undertaken on transfer of the important historical records to this Department.

Photo-Duplication: There is no microfilming unit in the State Archives Department, as the Department has been recently set up.

Library: In order to build up archival library, steps are being taken to collect old rare books lying in the different offices and private institutions. During the period 3,500 books have been acquired from the district office.

Future Development Programme: For the survey and acquisition of private records lying with the different agencies in the State, proposal for constituting a Regional Records Survey Committee on the pattern of other States was submitted to the Government. The Government has approved the proposal in principle. Steps for constituting the Committee are in progress. Other proposals on (i) centralisation of records, (ii) placing of the Baroda and Rajkot Record Offices under the administrative control of the Archives Department, (iii) delegation of various powers to the Director on the analogy of Karnataka State Archives and (iv) creation of additional posts for the development of Archives were submitted to the Government.

Exhibition: The State Archives has initiated action for building up an Exhibition Section in this Department. All the Collectorate and District Development Officers were requested to locate historical documents and transfer them to the Archives Department.

Training in Archives-Keeping: One Research Assistant has been deputed to the National Archives, New Delhi for one Year Diploma Course in Archives-Keeping during the year under report.